

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00276 121514 Z

44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12

PRS-01 RSR-01 /121 W

----- 052195

R 121015 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3416

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 276

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT WA

SUBJ: SOUTH WEST AFRICA: POLITICS IN OWAMBO

1. ARGUS PAPERS' SWA CORRESPONDENT CLIVE COWLEY HAS FILED REPORTS THIS WEEK WHICH SHOW TWO DISTINCT SIDES OF POLITICS IN OWAMBO (OVAMBOLAND) AND PORTEND AN EVENTUAL CLASH BETWEEN TRADITIONAL LEADERS AND THOSE WHO DISAGREE WITH THEIR VIEWS AND DO NOT HONOR THEIR LEADERSHIP.

2. IN INTERVIEW, BISHOP LEONARD AUALA, LEADER OF UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (VELKSWA), WHICH CLAIMS 315,000 MEMBERS (MOSTLY OVAMBOS), ADVOCATED MULTIRACIAL FEDERAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR SWA. HE SAID UNITY OF VELKSWA, COMPOSED AS IT IS OF MEMBERS OF SEVEN ETHNIC GROUPS, PROVED SPIRIT OF UNITY WAS A REALITY IN SWA DESPITE ETHNIC DIFFERENCES. DIVISION OF PEOPLE INTO HOMELANDS, HE ASSERTED, HINDERS DEVELOPMENT. AUALA, AN OVAMBO, MAINTAINED THAT " IN THEIR HEARTS" LEADERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00276 121514 Z

OF OWAMBO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DID NOT WANT SWA FRAGMENTED.
BUT, HE ADDED, THEY ARE AFRAID TO GO AGAINST WHAT SAG WANTS.

3. IN CONTRAST TO IDEAS EXPRESSED BY BISHOP AUALA, OWAMBO'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ALL MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE APPOINTED BY TRIBAL ELDERS) HAS ACTED TO PERPETUATE TRADITIONALIST CONTROL OF OWAMBO GOVERNMENT AFTER OWAMBO GAINS TRANSKEI- TYPE OF SELF- GOVERNMENT IN MAY. ONE LIKELY RESULT WILL BE OWAMBO GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED SUPPORT OF SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT. CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS ADOPTED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (LEGCO) INCLUDE PROVISION THAT NO POLITICAL PARTY WILL BE PERMITTED TO BE ESTABLISHED OR FUNCTION IN OWAMBO WITHOUT PERMISSION OF LEGCO. IN ADDITION CHIEFS AND SENIOR HEADMEN WILL RETAIN POWER TO PROHIBIT PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THEIR AREA. THERE WILL BE POPULAR ELECTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP OF LEGCO WILL BE INCREASED FROM 42 TO 56. HOWEVER, MAJORITY (35) OF LEGCO MEMBERS WILL BE APPOINTED. MOREOVER, NO PERSON WHO HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF TREASON, FOUND GUILTY UNDER TERRORISM ACT OR BEEN LISTED UNDER SUPPRESSION OF COMMUNISM ACT WILL BE PERMITTED TO BE MEMBER OF LEG O. THIS WILL SERVE TO PREVENT SOME SWAPO LEADERS FROM CONTESTING ELECTIONS.

4. COMMENT: (A) LEGCO HAS GIVEN ITSELF ARBITRARY POWERS TO SUPPRESS POLITICAL OPPOSITION IN OWAMBO. THIS COULD HAVE EFFECT OF FORCEFULLY KEEPING LID ON POSSIBLE POLITICAL FERMENT THERE. ON OTHER HAND, ACTION OLDER TRADITIONAL LEADERS HAVE TAKEN TO KEEP THEMSELVES IN POWER WILL INTENSIFY ALREADY EXISTING ANIMOSITY YOUNGER, EDUCATED OVAMBOS HAVE SHOWN FOR THEM AND FOR SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT. THIS CAN ONLY LEAD TO A GROWTH OF POLITICAL TENSION AMONG OVAMBOS. (B) FURTHER CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OWAMBO " HOMELAND" AND ADOPTION OF PROVISIONS AIMED AGAINST THOSE IN OPPOSITION TO TRADITIONAL LEADERS, WHO HAVE THUS FAR SUPPORTED SA POLICIES FOR SWA, WILL PROBABLY ADD TO POINTS AT ISSUE BETWEEN SAG AND UNITED NATIONS.
HURD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAPET00276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730439/aaaaiegf.tel
Line Count: 106
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <29-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971222
Subject: SOUTH WEST AFRICA: POLITICS IN OWAMBO
TAGS: PINT, WA
To: AF
DURBAN
GABORONE
GENEVA
JOHANNESBURG
LONDON
PRETORIA

SECSTATE WASHDC
USUN NEW YORK

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005